

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Rm 2
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Fish and Wildlife
Marine Region
1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Project Title: Novo Aquatic Sciences, Inc. Fish and Invertebrate Sampling in Humboldt Bay

Project Location: Waters of Humboldt Bay and offshore waters, Humboldt County, California

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to Novo Aquatic Sciences, Inc. pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for research purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Longfin Smelt and Coho Salmon during the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for research. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to collect Longfin Smelt and Coho Salmon. The applicant will sample these waters periodically throughout the year.

California Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Steven Novotny, Novo Aquatic Sciences, Inc.

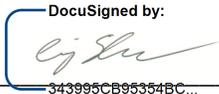
Exempt Status:

- Ministerial;
- Declared Emergency;
- Emergency Project;
- Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Calif. Code Regs., § 15306, Information Collection, Class 6

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project involves sampling in Humboldt Bay and nearby offshore waters which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to Longfin Smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*) or Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), both listed as threatened species.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Corianna Flannery

Telephone: (707) 499-0354

Signature:  _____ **Date:** 3/26/2021

Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Date Received for filing at OPR: _____